INSIST ON
Bartlett-Bacon bills being passed. Insist on knowing where your Representatives in Congress stand. You have a right to know.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE
ORGANIZE
EDUCATE

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WARS ON PRISON CONTRACTS

Trenton, N. J., April 18.—Declaring against a disgraceful and intolerable condition that will continue in failure to pass prison contract and management bills, pending in the state assembly, Gov. Fielder sent a strong message to the legislators urging that action be taken. The governor referred to influences that have been engaged in defeating this legislation, and which are interested in the operation "The men holding convict labor contracts want to continue such contracts, and would, therefore, be pleased with the defeat of this legislation," said the governor. "Permit me to direct your attention," he continued, "to the series of bills now in your hands designed to complete the abolition of our prison contract system, and to bring some order out of the chaos in which the employment and management of convicts in our state institutions is involved. Although the subject of prison reform has engaged the attention of members of the legislature and others for several years, but little progress has been made. While a law to abolish contract labor was enacted two years ago, nearly all contracts expiring since the passage of that law had been extended because the legislature made no adequate provision for the employment of prisoners. The bills to which I refer are not passed the disgraceful condition of affairs must continue until the attention of some legislature is directed and aroused to provide the necessary remedy."

The governor, in his message, quoted from the report of the Economy and Efficiency Commission on this subject, as follows:

"The result of all this legislation upon the prison is that it is now very difficult to say that there is any person or body of persons really responsible for the management of the prison or of the prisoners. The principal keeper has some authority, as has also the supervisor, the inspectors of the prison, the prison labor commission, and the board of parole.

"It is essential to the working out of our prison problem that there should be a centralized responsibility in prison management and to properly accomplish it, these bills must be passed without further change or amendment. If the legislature should return without passing the relief, an intolerable condition will grow worse and the contractors of prison work will be entirely satisfied."

CARPENTERS ARE ACTIVE.

Canton, Ohio, April 18.—The Carpenters' union has voted down a proposal to call a strike that would include those who are working for independent contractors now paying the union scale. The General Contractors' association refuses to grant the minimum wage demand of 45 cents an hour.

Macon, Ga., April 18.—The Jamestown Manufacturing company, the Bibb and Massee-Felten Lumber company, has entered into an eight-hour agreement with the Carpenters' union. The mill of which this company is the only one of the kind in the state that has made such a contract. About 150 men are affected.

Texas City, Tex., April 18.—Carpenters in this city have a 100 per cent organization, and believe this will make it possible for them to obtain their demand for an increase of $4.50 a day, starting May 27. The present rate is $4.

CIRCULATE PETITIONS.

Los Angeles, April 18.—Trade unionists of this city have perfected an organization for the circulation of petitions for the repeal of the Vrooman act and the passage of a city ordinance which will provide for "going" wages and just working conditions for municipal employes and those who work for contractors on city work. The Vrooman act is a State law governing public work. One clause provides that the contractor on public work or improvements shall receive his money from the property owners who are assessed for said improvements. The city does not handle the money, and is therefore powerless to enforce any rulings regarding wages or other conditions because of the fact that it cannot penalize the contractor by holding back any portion of his pay until the rules are complied with. There are other equally obnoxious clauses.

INCORRECT STATISTICS.

Washington, April 18.—Figures presented to the Interstate Commerce Commission in connection with the advance rate case shows the falsity of the railroads' plea that the increased cost of labor has worked to their especial disadvantage. In 1888, on the Baltimore and Ohio lines, wages were 58 per cent of the transportation account. In 1913 wages were 54 per cent of the same account. The same figures hold good for the New York Central lines. In 1896, on the Pennsylvania lines, wages were 55 per cent of the transportation account. In 1913, wages were 49.5 per cent of the same account, which was the lowest figures ever reached on these lines.

CLERKS REDUCE HOURS.

Springfield, Mo., April 18.—Ever since the Retail Clerks in this city were organized last November, they have been laboring to secure recognition and regulate the closing of stores on holidays. Last week they succeeded, and contracts have been signed to this effect by the leading merchants, who agree to employ only members of the new local and close their stores on many of the holidays, New Years, Decoration day and Thanksgiving day. They agree to close at 6 o'clock each day, and on the first and fifteenth of each month only they will be open after 6 o'clock. If the proposition fail to stick, they may keep open nights three days before Christmas.

TAILORS ARE WINNING.

Philadelphia, April 18.—Three hundred striking members of the Journeymen Tailors' union have returned to work, after signing agreements with the employers which call for a wage increase of 15 per cent. This makes a total of over 700 who have won their fight for advances, and the number is decreasing daily. The international union is paying benefits to the striking agreements who are asking for better working conditions, shorter hours, and higher wages. These people believe that they want to go to night school, but the long workday makes this impossible.

KILL INDUSTRIAL PROBE.

Trenton, N. J., April 18.—The "white light of publicity" will not be turned on this state's manufacturing establishments —at least, not for the present, as the senate has defeated Senator Egan's proposal to create a commission for the purpose of inquiring into New Jersey industrial conditions. The measure was defeated by a majority of one.

"SAFETY FIRST" TO BE SLOGAN.

Olympia, Wash., April 18.—Two steps have been taken by State Labor Commissioner Olson which are the direct cause of a number of accidents in the industrial plants of the state. A system of "safety committees" in all the plants that come under his jurisdiction has been inaugurated with marked success, and now Commissioner Olson is issuing a booklet entitled "Safety First," which will contain information and regulations designed to enable employers and employes in the various industries to avoid accidents. The booklet will be about forty-eight pages, and represents a long and thorough study of the hazards of the sawmill, the factory, the laundry, the machine shop, and every plant in which men work under the jurisdiction of the labor bureau. "I consider the movement toward safety one of the most important in present day industrial life," said Commissioner Olson, "and it is one of my chief aims to do what I can to eliminate danger. I feel that this booklet will do a great deal toward reducing the number of accidents, and I am sure that the special safety committee in each plant has already begun a good work."

TO URGE IMMIGRATION LAWS.

Boston, April 18.—Representatives of practically all the social welfare organizations in this city have formed themselves into a committee of 100 to urge the passage of immigration laws along the lines suggested by the State Immigration Commission in its recent report, which declared that the state must, "at whatever cost, prevent the lowering of its moral, mental, and physical standards—the inevitable result of over-crowded areas and unregulated housing in overcrowded tenements."

The report says that if the state is not willing to meet the cost, the influx of unbefitting tongues and foreign ideals will jeopardize our governmental system

WILL PROBE OFFICE SEEKERS.

Columbus, Ohio, April 18.—At a meeting of the executive board of the Ohio State Federation of Labor, it was decided to pay more attention in the future to the records of candidates for office. Heretofore Ohio unions have contented themselves with inquiring how candidates stood on proposed labor legislation, but under the new policy outlined the federation will make public the doings of these political aspirants in the past.

WIN LONG TEXTILE STRIKE.

Pompton Lakes, N. J., April 18.—By winning a strike of eleven months' duration, the local of United Textile Workers furnish another illustration of the value of thorough organization, backed by the international organization and the A. F. of L., instead of the emotional and "overnight" movements which are occasionally started in this industry. The strike was called last year because of a refusal of the German silk dyeing establishment to grant the 48½-hour work week, which has been conceded by two of the largest silk manufacturing plants in the world, the goods, the weaving of cotton and silk labels. The strike was conducted with determination, both sides realizing it is an open secret that the Employers' association furnished professional strikebreakers and gunmen who attempted this peaceful town, despite the absence of violence. The United Textile Workers were furnished ample financial means by the United Textile Workers of America. This united in the beginning, made the strike was finally declared off by the company granting the nine-hour day with no reduction in the wages formerly paid on the longer workday basis. The successful ending of this movement has also given the local an impetus for new drives throughout the entire textile industry, who declare the victory is one more step toward the eight-hour day for all Textile workers.

MOVEMENTS OF PAINTERS.

Bloomington, Ill., April 18.—Painters in this city are on strike for shorter employers insist on them working with non-unionists.

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Boston, April 18.—Nearly 2,000 painters were granted an increase of 5 cents an hour after several short strikes, which in some cases lasted only a few minutes. Many employers granted the increase without a strike.

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Montreal, April 18.—The 250 organized painters and decorators in this city are asking for an increase of 5 cents an hour. The present rate is 35 cents.

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Waterloo, Iowa, April 18.—Because of a refusal to grant a 50-cent hourly rate, 300 painters are on strike. The old scale was 45 cents.

LABOR BUREAU A SUCCESS.

Los Angeles, April 18.—The Labor Bureau of this city has filled more positions in three months than the five State bureaus of Wisconsin have in the same time, in conclusion of Dr. Milbank Johnson. The operation of the bureau costs only $625 a month, and it has been instrumental in furnishing jobs to 3,218 men and 361 women during March. Since the bureau opened, on January 1, more than 9,000 men and women have been given work through this agency, at a cost of only 18 cents per job.

GOVERNOR COMMENDED.

Baltimore, April 18.—The Federation of Labor of this city has forwarded a letter of commendation to Governor Goldsborough for his stand against an amendment to the child labor laws, which was urged every session by the city, but the bill to which would reduce the age limit in canneries. The bill passed both houses of the state legislature, but failed to be signed by the state executive. An effort was made to pass the measure over his veto, but this failed. The governor is living together with every other well-wisher of the child, stood behind the governor.

THREATEN TO APPEAL.

San Francisco, April 18.—Employing interests in this city are dissatisfied with the decision of the Appellate court in declaring that the city has the right to insist that printing offices must be entitled to use the union label if they would have their bids considered. The court refused to accept the claim of nonunion employers that this created a monopoly, and held that the label could be easily secured. Now the employers are threatening to appeal the case, while labor unionists on the Board of Supervisors was a factor in the board's decision.

TEAMSTERS ASK FOR MORE.

Utica, N. Y., April 18.—Four hundred teamsters employed by coal dealers, lumber companies, and business houses, are on strike for a higher wage rate. They are asking for minimums ranging from $13 to $15 a week, according to the class they come under.

GOVERNOR LAUDS UNIONS

Boston, April 18.—Declaring that labor unions are misunderstood, and giving the organizations of working men and women credit for calling attention to wrong and securing the passage of remedial legislation, Gov. Walsh of this state paid a glowing tribute to the trade union movement in an address before the local Central Labor union. The chief executive said in part:

"No man is fit to serve his fellow-men unless he is able to ascribe unselfish motives to the heart throbs of the millions who see nothing ahead but ceaseless toil. You believe that the health and welfare and prosperity of humanity was the chief thing in life. It was because you believed this and that the business of the government was to be concerned with the health and comfort of the working men and women and children of the future that you have become the men you are today. You can go a step farther and say that you seek the welfare of those who come after it for themselves. No body of men in Massachusetts today has higher public service to perform than the men who have the future of millions is in your keeping. In what way does your organization affect the government? Well, you have the credit of organized labor that you have supported the adoption of governments to the very fundamentals in government. You have called the attention of governments to the only essentials of government. It is because you have done so that you have been criticised, have been called unpatriotic, and because men have misjudged you. You believed that the health and welfare and prosperity of humanity was the chief thing. It was because you believed this and that the business of government was to be concerned with the health and comfort of the working men and women, and of the men and women of the future, that you have been understood."

SECURE FINE AGREEMENT.

Toronto, April 18.—Officials of the Brotherhood of Maintenance-of-Way Employes announce that conferences with officials of the Grand Trunk railway from Chicago to Portland has resulted in the adoption of a wage schedule as per the award of a board of commissioners made this fall. The award made an increase imperative, beginning March 1, of this year, which makes the rates the same as those of the Canadian Pacific, which are the highest in Canada, if not in the United States. These include overtime at the rate of time and one half on the minimum men; promotion by seniority where a man is qualified; investigation and reinstatement in full of men discharged by that where the investigation showed the discipline had not been fair, and transportation privileges equal to any earlier in the Grand Trunk service. The members of this union are employed in the railroad's track, bridge and building, water supply, and fuel departments, and signal and interlocking service. The adoption of these bettering conditions is another illustration of things that can be accomplished through trade unionism.

HORDES OF IMMIGRANTS.

San Francisco, April 18.—In an address in this city, Dr. Parker, secretary of the State Housing Commission, said that careful investigation led him to believe that San Francisco will have 60,000 immigrants here by the time the Panama canal is first after the opening of the big waterway. He said that the housing problem can be embarrassing to the city by the generally dangerous insanitary and unsafe conditions to which immigrants now live, and into which the hordes coming with the opening of the canal will be naturally precipitated. To come, through neglect, a debt in the city's social bookkeeping, then with a new mass of alien population this congested district will be a real social and moral menace.

IN FAVOR OF LABOR'S BILLS

Washington, April 18.—Representative Murdock, of Kansas, brought to the attention of the House of Representatives on Saturday, April 11, a brief which had been prepared by President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, and addressed to the members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives. This document thoroughly and clearly treats the subject of what the labor organizations and farmers organizations maintain that they should be exempt from the application of the provisions of the trust law. As a consequence, the full address of President Gompers appears in the Congressional Record of April 11. This brief, or address, was also published in the A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter in the issue of April 11. The introduction said: "Mr. Gompers entitled his address a 'Brief and Appeal.' It is a remarkable document and well worth the study of not only all members of Congress, but of all American citizens. In the conclusion of Dr. Milbank Johnson. The operation of the bureau costs only $625 a month, and it has been instrumental in furnishing jobs to 3,218 men and 361 women during March. Since the bureau opened, on January 1, more than 9,000 men and women have been given work through this agency, at a cost of only 18 cents per job.

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TO DISCUSS PORTO RICO.

Washington, April 18.—President Gompers has accepted the invitation of the Central Labor union of this city to address that body at its next meeting on conditions in Porto Rico and the progress of labor legislation before the United States Congress. Mr. Gompers has just returned from Porto Rico, where he was instructed to visit and investigate economic conditions by the Atlanta convention of the A. F. of L., in 1911, on petition of the Porto Rican delegates to that convention. The numerous questions confronting organized labor in this country has made it impossible for Mr. Gompers to carry out these instructions until this time.

MISSISSIPPI IN LINE

Mississippi's legislature has submitted an effective child labor amendment to the constitution, which will be voted upon next November. Judson King, secretary of the National Popular Government League, who has just returned from Jackson, says it is the best initiative and referendum amendment adopted by any State legislature up to date.

Ten thousand five hundred voters can propose a law or constitutional amendment, and 6,000 qualified may, by petition, demand that an act of the legislature be referred to the people.

Action by the legislature upon submission of the amendment was astonishing. It is a difficult thing to amend the constitution of Mississippi. The proposal must receive a two-thirds majority in each house, and must get this majority in each house in each of two successive legislative days. It then has to receive a majority of all votes cast in the election for candidates for legislature at which it is submitted, and then has to be placed in the constitution by an act of the succeeding legislature.

Nevertheless the amendment passed the house by the following votes: First day, 74 to 24; second day, 71 to 19; third day, 73 to 23. It passed the senate as follows: First day, 37 to 6; second day, 36 to 4; third day, 32 to 2.—Washington Times.

MAYOR REJECTS FIGHT PLAN

Seattle, Wash., April 18.—A "fictitious emergency" in the term used by Mayor Gill of this city in eliminating the special police from the regular police department, despite vigorous protests by the Employers' association. The mayor refuses to create a "department of defense" for any organization in Seattle, and has declined to concur in the views of anti-union employers, whom he charges with trying to create conditions in the city right between the striking teamsters and their employers, and who have been employed as strike breakers by the Employers' association.

Mayor Gill made this statement in taking office as mayor of Seattle to discontinue these forty-five extra policemen. It is my belief that the police force can easily handle the situation under ordinary conditions. These extra men have been kept on the force as a fictitious emergency when in reality none exists. It is not the duty of this city to carry on this state-wide fight. It is not right to fasten this additional expense on the taxpayers, and I shall not approve any more bills. The city might call upon the sheriff of King county or possibly upon the state for aid, or even the national guard."

Mr. Gill told his committee that his understanding of the strike situation is that the striking teamsters are willing to arbitrate, but the others are not.

"I believe I understand the plans to involve late city in a general strike," the mayor continued. He said that when an agreement was reached between the teamsters' union and the team owners' association was about agreed upon, the employers' association took a hand and called off the agreement. "Money is being distributed in a state-wide campaign by the Employers' Protective association to involve Seattle in a labor strife that may mean discredit to this city just because the teamsters are on strike," Mr. Gill declared.

URGE SAFETY AT SEA.

Washington, April 18.—A pledge is being circulated among people in this city, in New York, Boston, and elsewhere. It is called the pledge of the "Safety at Sea Society," and is as follows: "In view of the fact that the travel by ocean is daily being sacrificed for luxury and splendor, of the fact that travelers cannot be induced to insist that the ships shall be indifferent to the condition and skill of the men whose labor is upon the sea, and of the fact that the skill and sleeplessness of these men must always be the main factor in safety, we hereby pledge ourselves not to travel, if any other means of conveyance is feasible, upon any boat that is not equipped with lifeboats sufficient to accommodate all on board and with at least two able seamen for each life boat."

ORGANIZATION

The badge of sanity is the ability to organize.

Organization is a modern policy. The organized man is a power, he moves shoulder to shoulder with his brother, the unorganized man is merely a part of a mob, with no chart or compass to guide him.

Organization is the spirit of progress and the spirit of progress is the greatest asset a business or individual can have.

We are living in an age of organized interests. Men get together to secure things, to better conditions. They are doing it in a spirit of progress.

Reciprocity, mutuality, co-operation, are combined in this spirit, and the greatest of these is co-operation.

The element of unity is found here.

Co-operation is greater than competition and we should constantly bear in mind the great fundamental law of the universe—the laws of interdependence. There is not a thing in the world which is not dependent upon something else to enable thing or condition. We all need each other and therefore should co-operate with each other. He who loses sight of this important law is bound to become worthless timber in the life of the world.—E. R. Trowbridge, in Business Philosopher.

A LARGE INCREASE.

Montreal, April 18.—The Bartenders' union has increased its membership over 200 as the result of a few weeks' active organizing campaign.

WIRE MEN'S WAGES ADVANCE

Washington, April 18.—Wage differences between the Baltimore and Ohio railroad and the Order of Railway Telegraphers have been adjusted after conferences of several weeks' duration, participated in by the United States Board of Mediation and Conciliation. The agreement provides for increases in wages and revised the working rules. These mean gains to the wire men of from $120.00 per year. Vacation privileges have been extended to about 1,200 men not heretofore allowed such leave. Telegraphers and telephone operators who have been in service one year and less than two are allowed seven days' vacation with pay; those who have been in service more than two years are allowed fifteen days with pay. The overtime rate in line offices is increased from 30 to 35 cents an hour and in relay offices from 40 to 45 cents an hour. A number of minor changes in the rules have been made which operate to the advantage of the men. About 2,000 employes are affected. Telegraphers and telephone operators who have been in service one year and less than two are allowed seven days' vacation with pay; those who have been in service more than two years are allowed fifteen days with pay. The overtime rate in line offices is increased from 30 to 35 cents an hour and in relay offices from 40 to 45 cents an hour. A number of minor changes in the rules have been made which operate to the advantage of the men. About 2,000 employes are affected. Telegraphers and telephone operators who have been in service one year and less than two are allowed seven days' vacation with pay; those who have been in service more than two years are allowed fifteen days with pay. The overtime rate in line offices is increased from 30 to 35 cents an hour and in relay offices from 40 to 45 cents an hour. A number of minor changes in the rules have been made which operate to the advantage of the men. About 2,000 employes are affected.

A PLEASING PROPHECY.

Topeka, Kans., April 18.—"By the advancement of science of living, the teaching of hygiene, sanitation, and the proper care of children's food, sanitation and proper food and clothing for adults, the death rate should be cut in half in time throughout the country in the next few decades," is the opinion of Dr. S. J. Crumbine, secretary of the State Board of Health, who is further quoted: "In the last decade the life of man has been extended ten years by the advancement of science and the publicity given to sanitation and health measures, and in the next century it will not be unusual to see people 150 years old any more than at present to see them centenarians of old. In three years Kansas spent thirty thousands dollars in a tuberculosis publicity campaign, and in that period the annual death rate from this disease was reduced 15 per cent. The good work done had much to do with saving these 112 lives each year. In Rochester, N. Y., a city of similar size, there are only one year and the deaths of babies were reduced 200 in that time, at a cost of $6,000."

SAYS UNION SHOP PROTECTS.

Duluth, April 18.—The Painters of this city have abandoned all hopes of maintaining living conditions under the nonunion shop system, and have called out them by a lockout several years ago, and they are now on strike for the recognition of the union and union rules and wages. The local has struggled to maintain fair conditions, but after an experience of nearly all that time, is disgusted, and will no longer be a party to the price-cutting system enforced on them by nonunion employers. The strike is now in sight between the striking teamsters and their employers, and who have been employed as strike breakers by the latter's association. The only difference that originally involved the teamsters' union, and a meeting called to discuss arbitrating the teamsters' strike, Mayor Gill said:

"I am very much opposed to taking office as mayor of Seattle to discontinue these forty-five extra policemen. It is my belief that the police force can easily handle the situation under ordinary conditions. These extra men have been kept on the force as a fictitious emergency when in reality none exists. It is not the duty of this city to carry on this state-wide fight. It is not right to fasten this additional expense on the taxpayers, and I shall not approve any more bills. The city might call upon the sheriff of King county or possibly upon the state for aid, or even the national guard."

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SAYS MOVE IS SIGNIFICANT

Fall River, Mass., April 18.—The Globe, of this city, says the American Woolen company has opened an export sales in London, England, and has issued a statement to the trade in which it says: "The recent removal of the tariff on wool is the first step toward placing the company to offer its popular fabrics for use in all parts of the world on the most favorable terms."

The Globe makes this editorial comment: "Considering the gloomy prophecies of the Democratic organs at the effect the recent revision of the tariff would have on their industry whereby they would be compelled to leave the field, and fast becoming a factor in favor of the home market with a deluge of foreign made goods with which to glut our markets, the above announcement that the American Woolen company, popularly known as the woolen trust, is about to establish sales agencies in London, the leading market with its products, is interesting, to say the least. This is a surprising claim coming from the source it does. It is a confession that, after all, this tariff that was the weak ruin to the woolen industry in this country, has actually been of such an advantage to it as to lead the American manufacturer, to quote the text of the announcement, to offer his products for use in all parts of the world on the most favorable terms.' Instead of being dismayed by the dread of foreign competition, which the Democratic free trust finds itself in a position to reverse and threaten with ruin, the sage of battle to its foreign rivals in the latter owns preserves. Presumably this step is taken after the most careful canvass of the American company without due deliberation and with a confident belief in doubling if not trebling the sales. Picture, it ought to give our standpat friends and the inventors of calamity scares and unbridled terror. Let them step up and put them to their trumps to explain how such things can possibly be."

WILL TAKE UP WRIGHT CASE.

Washington, April 18.—The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives has appointed a subcommittee to handle the impeachment charges against Justice Wright of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The members are Representatives Sheppard, Howard, McCoy, of New Jersey; Taggart, of Kansas, and Nelson, of Wisconsin, who will hear the charges to be filed by a local banker as to the integrity and judicial fitness of the accused.

TO ACT WITH UNIONISTS.

Boise, Idaho, April 18.—The Meridian Grange, composed of influential farmers in this section, has passed resolutions favoring an amendment to the state constitution by the insertion of an initiative and referendum section. The Trades Council and its affiliated trade unions are invited to join with the agriculturalists in securing the adoption of the proposed

TO AID THE JOBLESS.

New York, April 18.—Gov. Glynn has signed the bill creating an additional bureau in the Department of Labor to look after the unemployed throughout the state. The Commissioner of Labor shall have power to solicit business for the public employment offices by advertising in newspapers or in any other way he may deem necessary. No fees or charges, direct or indirect, shall be paid by those workers who are registered as seeking employment. Bulletins will be issued with regard to the state of the labor market. Representatives of employers or employes may file at any of the public employment offices a signed statement of existing strikes or lockouts affecting their trade. Another section provides: "No person shall suffer any disqualification or be otherwise prejudiced on account of refusing to accept employment found for him through a public employment office, where the ground of refusal is that a strike or lockout exists which affects the work, or that the wages are lower than those current in the trade in that particular district or section where the employment is offered."

FAVOR CHILD LABOR LAW.

Little Rock, Ark., April 18.—The movement for a new child labor law, or for a new law in this state, started by the Arkansas Federation of Labor, is gaining in strength, and at a meeting called in this city it was proposed to aid the organized workers, who have been circulating petitions for the past several months to initiate a law at the general election next November. It is now generally understood by all right-thinking citizens that the position of the unionists is correct, and that there is badly in need of a good child labor law.

TO "WHITE LIST" HOTELS.

New York, April 18.—The municipal health department is responding to a call that is dangerously near the boycott, fashored by ordinary workingmen. The latest demand by the department, in announcing its "white list," has a familiar sound to organized workers, as it says, in part: "If you find the name of your favorite hotel, department store, or other tradesman on the white list, you may feel certain you are patronizing an establishment anxious to safeguard the health of its guests. Only those establishments whose employes have been recently vaccinated will be included in the list."

UNIONISTS WIN ELECTIONS

Denver, April 18.—The United Labor Bulletin of this city comments as follows on the political success of Colorado trade unionists in the recent elections:

"Union labor men were victors in several municipal elections held in Colorado mining districts, Tuesday. Up in Lafayette a straight union ticket was elected by Thomas H. Fauil for mayor, defeated S. R. Wood. Socialist, who had been elected by a combination of those operators who refuse to recognize the miners' union. A year ago Wood defeated Fauil by a majority of 21 votes. At Somerset, Gunnison county, a union ticket was chosen mayor, and throughout Boulder county tickets supported by the unionists were successful.

"The entire union labor ticket was elected at Aguilar, in Las Animas county, center of the 'war district' of the coal strike. This is the first time a union man has ever been permitted to office in that town. An attempt was made by the so-called Citizens' party leaders to deprive local miners of the right to vote, but the privileges of voting. By order of Gov. Ammons the militia patrolled the whole election day, but there was no disorder.

"The union labor ticket at Walsenburg was elected by a majority of 200 votes, bringing to the polls of strike-breakers, many of whom had not citizens of Colorado, from the Walsen district. Suits in the courts will probably be made of this election.

"In La Veta, another storm center, the union miners whipped their opponents. Trebel, the labor candidate for mayor, receiving 194 votes to 156 cast for Kincaid, the coal operators' candidate. Three union Democrats, Eggleston, and Pickens, were chosen city trustees.

"Eldora chose W. C. Harpel, a union man, mayor by a majority of one vote."

MUSIC ORDER WITHDRAWN.

Savannah, Ga., April 18.—Col. Walke, commandant of the United States troops at Fort Screven, Tybee Island, has notified the Savannah municipal authorities that he has withdrawn the order permitting the military band to play concerts in this city for concerts and convention entertainments, because of a decision of army officials by the Musicians' Union, which said that 'the services of a government band without compensation tends to discourage rather than inspire the humble citizen who daily fights a battle for existence.' Col. Walke declines to allow the fort band to take part in any municipal affairs, and the city will be compelled to employ civilians for this work.

ARE ASKING FOR MORE.

Canton, Ohio, April 18.—Union carpenters in this city are on strike because they have refused the demand for a 10-cent-an-hour increase.

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Waxahachie, Tex., April 11.—Carpenters are putting into effect their new wage scale, which calls for 50 cents an hour. The old rate was 45 cents.

—

Troy, N. Y., April 11.—Six hundred carpenters in this vicinity are asking for a wage increase of 5 cents an hour. Their present rate is 45 cents.

TO BUILD FIREPROOF VESSELS.

Washington, April 18.—A bill to require all passenger ships and steamboats to be built of fireproof materials, including hull, cabins, decks, floor and berths has been introduced by Representative Redmonds, of Tennessee. The bill, which would take effect January 1, 1916, would apply to steamers of more than 100 tons carrying passengers for hire, and to steamboat passenger vessels on lakes, rivers, and the coastwise traffic, but would exempt from its provisions vessels engaged in the burden used by fishing parties. It would require refusal of licenses for failure to observe these requirements.

PLEADS FOR HIGHER WAGES.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., April 18.—In an address in this city, Rev. David Weeks referred to the fact that one company here pays its women employes at the rate of 10 cents an hour, or $4.80 a week. He said the minimum rate for women should not be under $8, and expressed regret that only one professing ideals should endanger the morals of girls and women by having starvation wages. Those sentiments resulted in the appointment of a committee of the parishioners of this will investigate conditions for women in this city.

MARYLAND UNIONISTS' WIN

Baltimore, April 18.—"That Mr. Hammond got his bill through under the circumstances is little short of a political miracle and he would have failed had he not been able to rally the support organized labor," says the Evening News, of this city, in announcing the passage of the Hammond workmen's compensation act by both branches of the State Legislature. Unionists and their sympathizers declare it is the most important piece of legislation affecting labor ever passed by the Maryland State Assembly. Its passage was made extremely difficult because of other legislation which developed much feeling among the legislators, and but for the finest of generalship in judging the exact time when the compensation act should be urged, the efforts of the workmen would have been futile. The central body of this city was primarily active in favor of the bill, and was the dominant factor behind Senator Hammond. Much credit is given James H. Sullivan, chairman of the legislative committee of the local federation of labor for his constant attention to this proposal, which was a hard fought struggle. Gov. Goldsborough has promised to sign the bill. The spirit of the measure is shown in the following part of the preamble: "The common law system governing the remedy of workmen against employers for injuries received in extra hazardous work is inconsistent with modern industrial conditions, therefore the State of Maryland, exercising herein its police and sovereign power, declares that all persons who are now generally engaged in work by the day or week, and who hereby withdraw from private controversy, and sure and certain relief for workmen injured in extra hazardous employments and their families and dependents are hereby provided for, regardless of questions of fault and to the exclusion of every other remedy, except as provided in this act."

For permanent disability benefits to the amount of $5,000 may be paid, and for temporary disability the amount of benefits shall not exceed $3,750.

ELECTRO-PERS RAISE WAGES.

Baltimore, April 18.—The Electro-typers' union of this city has signed a two years' agreement with employers. For the first year wages range from $15 a week to $18. The second year $16 and $21 a week. For the second year a general advance of an additional dollar is agreed to.

MANY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Washington, April 18.—Fifty per cent of the public school children in this country are suffering from eye, ear or throat defects, which seriously impair their efficiency, is the belief of Dr. Oscar Wilkinson, in an address in this city. The speaker presented startling figures to support his contention that while the United States is paying out more than $100,000,000 annually to educate 5,000,000 "repeating" children, who owe their condition largely to lack of medical inspection. Referring to the Bachman investigation, he said that there was practically no adequate inspection along the lines suggested, and that not one of the 1,000 questions examined at all. Dr. Wilkinson stated that by the use of the simple questions suggested by the Bachman investigation or bonexiteres of the disorders. His suggestion that a card be provided in the desk which would follow the child from room to room and thus be a complete record of the examinations.

NEW WAGE LAW INVOKED.

Detroit, April 18.—The first ruling in this city under the new amendment to the wage act as passed by the last legislature was made in Justice DeLisle's court, and as a result Abe Coah received $10 and costs over $100 due on one week's work, which he had contracted to do for $18. The law declares that any employer who shall refuse to pay a workman for his services shall, upon being found guilty in a court of law, be compelled to pay, in addition to the wages due, the sum of that amount per day for every day between the time the wage was due and the time it was paid, but not more than $50 due him from W. B. Lannin for a week's work. He declared Lannin had refused to pay him. Martin B. Stiffler DeClare ruled in favor of the plaintiff. The defendant did not appear.

ARE INSISTING ON JUSTICE.

Winnipeg, April 18.—The Order of Railway Conductors is urging that justice be accorded their five members suspended by the Canadian Pacific railway. The men in question were charged with insubordination here, but a telegram was received from the general manager's office in Montreal, ordering that the men be either prosecuted or dismissed. The company stated that it could not meet the instructors, who was found not guilty. The principle witness for the prosecution was a man detected in the act by the Conductors have applied to the Minister of Labor, Hon. T. W. Crothers, to aid in disputes act to deal with the case, and the railroad declines to reinstate the men.

REFUSE TO ACCEPT WAGE CUT.

Grays Harbor, Wash., April 18.—Six hundred loggers in the lumber camps in this vicinity are on strike because of a reduction of 25 cents a day, which was put in force at the end of the season last fall. At that time the men made no objection to the reduction, as there was plenty of work to be had at that time. At the opening of this season, however, a demand for the old scale has been refused.

OPPOSING SUNDAY TRADE.

Columbia, Ohio, April 18.—The local Retail Grocers' association has declared war against the sale of goods by grocers on Sundays in violation of law. Leading grocers are favoring a proposal to close their stores on Sundays, and it is said that those stores that keep open on Sunday must first be brought into line, and they propose invoking the state statutes.

RAISE WAGES $2 A WEEK.

Toronto, April 18.—Stationary Firemen employed in the breweries have secured wage increases of $2 a week, as the result of conferences with their employers. The steam engineers are now negotiating a similar increase, and it is said that they, too, have rejected one offer, but it is believed the differences will be satisfactorily settled.

COAL HANDLERS ADVANCE.

Troy, N. Y., April 18.—A strike has been averted by concessions on the part of employers to the demands of the Coal Handlers' union. The men will receive $3 a day for fifty-nine hours' labor, starting May 1.

JOINS BOND FIDE UNION.

Baltimore, April 18.—Electrical Workers, No. 28, has decided to abandon the association which it has had and has joined the organization of its craft that is recognized by the A. F. of L.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1914

Entered as second-class matter, September 10, 1912, at the Post-office at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

Issued from the Headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, Ouray Building, 501-509 G Street Northwest, Washington, D. C.

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AIM TO "LEGALLY" DESTROY

The foes of Labor, armed with injunctions and the Sherman Anti-trust law, threaten the very existence of organized labor. They seek to destroy the organizations of labor, to strip the workers bare of all defenses and then to fling them to merciless greed and exploitation. Everywhere they seek evidence that they may invoke the law against some organization. Right busily have they toiled. Let no organization feel secure from their legal plotting.

Of victims there have been many. A short time ago the victim was the hatters, then the longshoremen, yesterday the miners, today the printers—tomorrow, who knows? Who would underwrite the security of any effective labor organization?

But each new proceeding instituted by our enemies constitutes an additional argument for the enactment of legislation which shall protect organized labor from the indignity and the injustice of prosecution under the Sherman Anti-trust law and from outrages perpetrated by means of midnight injunctions. The cumulative efforts of Labor's foes has resulted in the present insistent, united demand of all America's organized workers for immediate action by Congress upon the Bartlett-Bacon bills.

Many were at first disposed to minimize the danger to Labor from prosecution under the Sherman Anti-trust law. That delusion is no longer possible—the very existence of organized labor is at stake.

Persistent, intelligent methods have built up a strong organization able and successful in protecting the printers. Organization secured for the workers of this trade a reasonable work day, fair wages, various health and benefit provisions. It enabled the printers to grapple with problems of a transition period during which machinery replaced skilled workers, and to solve accompanying problems so that the workers shared the benefits from increased productivity. Because the printers' organization has been successful it incurred the opposition of employers who wish to determine arbitrarily all terms of work. Under whatever philosophy of "freedom" they may disguise their purpose, the terribly disastrous results of this system may be seen everywhere among the unorganized workers—the cruel, pitiless, unrelenting crushing of the underfed, helpless burden-bearers.

The foes of organized labor are seeking to force that system upon workers who have fought their way to larger liberty, better conditions of work, and a better life.

In February, Doubleday, Page and Company, a publishing house of New York City, which opposes the union shop, sought to bring action against the Allied Printing Trades Council under the Sherman Antitrust law. They gathered together evidence which showed the effectiveness of the printers' organization and their methods for securing benefits for the membership. An assistant of the Attorney General of the United States passed upon this evidence and decided that the incidents cited did not constitute violations of the Sherman Antitrust law. The significance of his ruling is his concurrence in the perversion of trust legislation to apply to organizations of workers.

That position is based upon fundamentally false conceptions. Unless that fallacy is made plain and justice and equity demanded and secured labor organizations may be prosecuted, fined, dissolved, or their officers imprisoned at the behest of hostile employers or hostile governmental officials.

The ruling of the Assistant Attorney General warned the printers that certain activities of their organization might at any time be made the cause of legal action. In other words, the organization exists at the sufferance of the Department.

Foiled in that attempt to involve the printing trades in litigation, Walter Gordon Merritt, best known as the counsel for the American Antiboycott Association, acting for the Gill Engraving Company, has sought an injunction against the New York Photo-Engravers' Union and asks $50,000 as damages for injuries resulting to that firm from its determination to conduct a nonunion or so-called "open" shop.

In the enumeration of complaints presented, it is charged that the injury to the Gill business began with a strike in 1907 to secure union conditions. Since the firm was unwilling to operate a union shop, it determined to make war upon the union, and refused to employ union men. Now it complains that the policy it has pursued has not been profitable, and it charges the unions with conspiracy and combination to injure and to destroy the firm's good will, trade, and business.

Organized labor was fighting for its life against the perils of the open shop. It was successful. The methods it used were the only ones that would produce results. Now comes this firm asking that the members of the unions be restrained from "combining or conspiring" to establish union standards and from inducing, directing, or requiring any of the employes of any shop to quit work and to leave their employment, or to refuse to work upon nonunion products.

Then the firm asks that $50,000 be paid them because they have suffered financially from their opposition to organized labor.

Legal proceedings were brought to enforce the "open" shop—the only condition which will satisfy the publishers that their "right to do business" is not violated. The reason for that belief is obvious—an open shop means one where the workers are free to work as many hours as the boss wishes, where they do as much work as he can wring out of human flesh and blood, where they are free to contract tuberculosis or any other trade disease, where they are free to take whatever wages the boss' generosity may follow, free to accept all this or free to go out the open door to join the jobless.

Whatever improvement have been made in work-conditions in open shops have been forced by the higher standards prevailing in union shops. Union shop standards have been established by the effective demands of the organized printers. As a result of strong organization the printers are not so near the bread line as some other workers. They are able to resist more effectively this legal invasion of their rights as human beings.

Laborers in many sweated, unorganized industries are little more than work machines. But even though they are not allowed a much higher development than that of beasts of burden, the horrible injustice of classifying them with cattle, meat, or wheat ought to trouble the consciences of American citizens.

America's printers will fight for their right to protect themselves through collective action.

They will fight for the right to maintain their individuality.

They will resist every effort that leads inevitably to industrial slavery.

Let every one who has any concern for the national welfare rally to their cause. Their cause is the cause of all workers. The workers are the very fibers of the nation—their welfare, industrial, physical, and social, is indissolubly bound up with the welfare of the nation.

Workers of America, Act Now. Make individual demands upon the House Judiciary Committee for a favorably report upon the Bartlett-Bacon bills AT ONCE. Write to your Representative and Senators that they may know the solidarity of Labor's demand for this legislation.

Let them know that the rights of men are more important than the rights of property.

Let them know that the workers constitute the great majority of the nation's citizens.

SEA SAFETY TREATY MEETS OPPOSITION

By Judson C. Welliver, in the Washington Times.

Charging that foreign ship-owning interests hostile to the development of an American merchant marine dominated the drafting of the treaty on safety of life at sea, Andrew J. Furuseth, head of the Seamen's Union, declares that the ratification of that treaty would be a deadly blow to all hope of American expansion on the ocean.

Mr. Furuseth was one of the American delegates to the London conference which framed the treaty. He resigned from the conference because, he declares, he became convinced that it was entirely under the domination of the shipping interests.

"It was adopting rules for safety at sea that would make the ship owner's investment safe, and not such as would make the passenger's life secure," he said.

"It was adopting rules that would protect vessel owners against damage claims, but rules that would protect the lives of passenger and crew.

"It was adopting rules that surrender the right of the United States to exercise jurisdiction over foreign vessels within our ports and waters.

"With this treaty ratified, the passage of the La Follette seamen's measure will be impossible. That measure would give substantial guarantees of safety at sea, and would break up the system of servitude to which seamen are held. It would equalize costs of vessel operation between the United States and other countries, and thus give Americans a fair chance in the shipping competition of the world.

"The vessel owners of the other maritime countries, seeing that they were menaced with the loss of their cheap and subservient development of American shipping, seized the opportunity to put the snuffer on all chance of American merchant marine development, by putting through this treaty.

"The ratification of the treaty will make it impossible to pass the La Follette bill, either in its shape in which it passed the House of Representatives in 1912, under the name of the Wilson bill, or in the shape that it passed the Senate in October, 1913.

"As it passed the House in 1912 it gave freedom to the seamen of foreign vessels while in our harbors and determined minimum standards of efficiency in the crews of all the vessels leaving our harbors; that is to say, the United States government, which has been invested in vessels under foreign flags. Foreign shipowners and their American partners, recognizing fully that the La Follette seamen's bill would equalize the cost of operation, sought to find some way to prevent that bill from being enacted, and they seized upon the conference on safety of life at sea to accomplish their purpose.

"If the Senate shall ratify the treaty, the present discrimination against our own vessels, in our own harbors, in favor of foreign vessels while in our harbors, will be continued and our citizens will continue to travel on foreign vessels, having unsafe equipments and seamanned as were the Titanic and the Volturno.

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A TWO-STORY EDITORIAL

(NOTE—This is a two-story editorial. The first portion of it is adapted for use by pro-employer daily dozen monopolies which are opposed to the coddling of criminals by sickly sentimentalists. It may be used in any way desired. The second part is for human beings.)

Part 1. The best argument against the soft-headed and long-haired advocates of reformers who believe that lions can be turned into lambs and desperadoes into citizens by kindness and affection is the result of their own experience. Give them one enough and these quixotic dreamers sooner or later bare themselves.

This was the experience of a chuckle-brained Illinois warden, whose faith in humanity led him to allow two precious rascals who were serving life sentences for murder to drive the prison automobiles. It was a good job—a lot better than they could have had outside the prison. They were housed in their honor not to escape, and this warden was one of those infatuated people who believe that a gentleman's word is a sufficient substitute for bolts and bars.

One morning he woke up and found the birds had flown, automobile, honor and all. He is a sadder and a wiser warden now, and it is a safe bet that hereafter he will put his trust in something more solid that a convicted felon's ideas of "honor."

Part 2. Two days later the "honor men" returned, tired, dirty, but not unhappy. Why did they come back? "We just had our fling," explained one; "that's all. It would have been easy for us to escape to some other land. But the warden had been good to us, and it would have put him in bad. Besides, we knew it would end in the same way. Every one of these, and more, is the gift of labor.

The only answer to this is that the sickish sentimentality and the mawkish humanity of "Why did you come back?" have corrupted the prisoners, too, and so spoiled a good argument for the ball and chain.—San Francisco Bulletin.

WORLD'S DEBT TO WORKERS

There should be no controversy over the proposition that all progress in the world comes as the result of labor's activity, as the history of the recent decade of time since creation dawned, so it will remain as the verdict until all action is stilled and the earth is no more blotted out and obliterated. This much the centuries and ages that have come and gone have revealed, and as much the centuries that are yet unborn will continue to disclose. This is the great law of nature, and it is as unchangeable as it is unrepealable.

Labor is the creator of all; without its power there can be neither life, nor form, nor being. The building of cities, the planting of the seas, the tunneling of the mountains, the bridging of the rivers, the reaping of the harvests, the quarrying of the stone, the lifting into the earth's treasures from the gloom and danger of the mines, the weaving of fabrics, the making of garments, the erection of homes, the order of the day, the beauty of the playgrounds, the preparing of daily food, and every one of these, and more, is the gift of labor.

There never was anything of utility, never a thing of beauty, or place of pleasure, that was not fabricated by the hand and genius of labor. Without labor it is impossible for any form of life to come into being, or, when coming into existence, to be able to continue. Labor is the giver of all. To those who share in the service of labor, to those who receive its gifts, whether to them it be sacred, the divinity of the product comes from labor.

Labor is the dispenser of beauty, the brush of the painter, and the builder of all the palaces of the world. There is nothing which surrounds the faculties, or which stirs the heart, nothing of symmetry in form or movement which is not the gift of labor. It has leveled the hills and planted the valleys with verdure and the song birds proclaim its triumph of victory.

Slowly and painfully through all the centuries labor has wrought and has been the inheritor. After first drawing a chart of the celestial realm it made a map of the earth. It has traversed all lands and crossed every sea. Yes, even the unseen world has been forced to surrender its secrets to the power of labor, and by its marvelous skill it transmutes these into the needed products for man's development and the comforts of the world. It puts us then crown its glory with the laurel and place in its hands the scepter of authority. Such is the majestic power alone achieves and blesses by its touch.—Steam Shovel Magazine.

QUIT FOOLIN'

Say, brother, 'fess up, now, honest Injun, and tell us you like to make talk about your unionism.

You—who haven't reached that point where you will pass the nickels made dollars to your "open shop" enemy.

You—who haven't enough ability to even organize your purchasing power.

You—who work beside a nonunionist day in and day out, and never tell him what organization means to you.

You—who haven't ability enough to demand an eight-hour day which will give you time for rest, and time to think.

You—who won't even spend 5 cents a month to support your labor press.

You—who imagine you are working wonders when you attend one meeting a month.

You—who think you have "done your part" because you probably served one term as sergeant-at-arms or held some office in the local several years ago.

You—who look upon your union as a thing that will automatically improve conditions instead of realising that you and men like you are the union.

You—who are prone to grouch, and fume, and worry, and fret, instead of jumping into the fight at the right time to think.

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You—who won't shoulder to the wheel and saying a good word for the fellow beside you, who is also lending a helping hand.

Don't forget yourself, brother. Begin now to help. Don't roll up your sleeves, of course, it's tough sledding—the knocks are hard and many. But the Almighty put the muscle there for use, and not for old weird of ours. The quickest way we can come into our own is for every one to do his or her part.

You may say, "Oh, it will come out all right." That's all my grandma.

But even if it's true, you must remember that some one else is doing your share to make this possible, and you are getting double duty because of your inaction. If you will only do your part "things will come out all right" just that much quicker.

Quit faking, brother, get into the fight and stay there.

Be a union man, and not merely a member of some local organization.—Toledo Union Leader.

REST NECESSARY

"A locomotive will go to pieces," says an able writer, "if it does not have an opportunity periodically to allow its particles of iron and steel to readjust themselves. If cohesion in the locomotive engine tends to lose its grip upon the molecules and bonds when in isolated use, so that the engine must periodically stand in the roundhouse and have an opportunity to readjust itself, if iron and steel cannot stand the strain of perpetual use, is it strange that the human being must have a frequent opportunity to readjust? Eight hours for work, eight hours for play, eight hours for sleep and rest and recreation.

THE CONFLICT OF TWO RIGHTS

A mild-mannered, young-looking man in glasses sat before a Congressional committee last Monday and discussed in smooth, unemotional terms his relation to a long-continued condition of disorder amounting to civil war. He spoke as the representative of one side in the bloody struggle, yet the story of injustice and violence, of raging mobs and deadly machine guns, of a State dishonored and a militia defied, did not once move him from his equable contentment with his responsible course.

He admitted the existence of all the dreadful facts, admitted his controlling connection therewith, yet admitted, too, that he had never felt called upon to investigate the horrors personally, but was content to do more than obtain written reports from his agents on the ground, 2,000 miles away, and approve their every act without further inquiry.

The young man on the witness stand was John D. Rockefeller, Jr. We are far from picturing him as the heartless monster suggested by the passage quoted, but we do find in him an exemplar of the modern system which cloaks distant wrong, committed through "trusted representatives," with the innocence of well-intended human deeds.

Mr. Rockefeller is a director in the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company —the principal director, since he represents the controlling millions in the vast enterprise. The miners employed by the company have been on strike for six months. The conflict has been marked by bursts of unparalleled ferocity on both sides. Property has been ruthlessly destroyed, men shot down, thousands of families made homeless and desperate. Justice has been outraged by subservient courts and the military power of the State turned over to the use of private capital. Upon the conditions of anarchy the comment of Mr. Rockefeller was as follows:

> I have done what I regard as best in the interests of the employes and the large investment I represent. We have given the best men obtainable in charge, and are relying on their judgment. My connection is entirely acquired. We want rather that the unfortunate conditions should continue and that we should lose all the millions invested than that the men and workmen should be deprived of their right, under the Constitution, to work for whom they please. That is the great principle at stake. It is a national issue.

These utterances are important. Mr. Rockefeller is not the pampered son of millions. He has none of the vices of the idle rich—not even the silliness. His reputation is that of a shrewd, able and conscientious. Moreover, he will administer one day the largest single fortune in the world. Therefore, what he says concerns the whole nation.

No doubt he believed he was stating accurately the purpose of the corporation, but it is equally certain that the statement was inaccurate and false. No capitalists ever spent millions merely to "protect the freedom" of workers; no corporation would prefer that its entire investment be consumed rather than that "workmen should be deprived of the right to work for whom they please."

Pretended regard for that "great principle" has been used in defense of every species of economic iniquity. Capital has pleaded, even with tears, for the "right" of workmen to operate unguarded machinery and trainmen to couple cars unprovided with safety appliances, for the "right" of women to toil at exhausting labor under unhealthful conditions; for the "right" of children to sacrifice themselves for a meager wage and be ground up in the remorseless industrial process.

But back of all this advocacy for the worker's "right" and "freedom" lies the real inspiration—a belief in the supreme sanctity of property and a determination to maintain that principle in the teeth of an aroused social sense which would subordinate it to human welfare. By the "right" of the workmen to work "for whom he pleases and how he pleases," the supporter of the system means the "right" of capital to dictate the terms and conditions of work and of the employe to accept these terms or starve.

Originally, the dispute between the Rockefeller company and its men concerned wages and other details of employment. Then the direct issue became labor unionism, invoked as a means of meeting the enemies of the corporation and enforcing the demands of labor. But these controversies long ago were submerged in a far greater conflict. And it is because it has been so vividly set forth in the person and attitude of Rockefeller that it has become, as he says, a "national issue."

To his mind, no doubt, it is a conflict as new as it is deplorable. Yet in principle it differs not at all from that which has raged in one form or another for generations. Sixty years ago Abraham Lincoln stated it thus:

> That is the real issue. It is the eternal struggle between these two principles—right and wrong—throughout the world. They are the two principles that have stood face to face from the beginning of time, and will ever continue to struggle. The one is the common right of humanity and the other the divine right of kings. It is the same principle in whatever shape it develops itself. It is the same spirit that says, "You work and toil and earn bread and I'll eat it." * * * We are for both the man and the dollar; but in case of conflict we are for the man before the dollar. * * * Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital and deserves much the higher consideration.—Philadelphia North American.

DOLLARS VS. HUMANITY

Minnesota trade unionists are opposing some of the recommendations of Governor Eberhart's Efficiency and Economy Commission, and especial opposition is directed to the proposal to place the interests of working men and women under the control of a department to be known as "Commerce and Labor." The workers show that the plan will subordinate the present State Labor Department and endanger humanitarianism in a desire for economy, urged by commercialism. The St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly has appointed a committee to consider the question and take steps necessary to prevent the impairment of the efficiency, usefulness and freedom of action of the labor department.

The Minnesota Advocate discusses this question from the viewpoint of workers, and well says:

> "According to the outline made public by the commission, this department will include the railroad and warehouse commission, which is elective and will continue to perform its present duties. Then there is to be a director of commerce and labor who will have under his control the superintendent of banks, the insurance commissioner, a commissioner of commerce and the commissioner of labor. There is also to be appointed a board of labor to take over the duties of the minimum wage commission and the board of arbitration. In addition, the board of labor will act as an advisory board for the labor commissioner and adopt rules and regulations for securing safety in factories and workshops. If the legislature should take the administration of the workmen's compensation law from the courts, that would probably also be placed in the hands of this advisory board.
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> "In this arrangement lies the danger to the best interests of the working people. The director of commerce and labor, because of the fact that he is placed in charge of the banking and insurance departments, will no doubt usually, if not invariably, be a business man and employer of labor. The advisory board, because its members will receive no compensation and especial expense, will also be dominated largely, if not entirely, by the business interests.
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> "Under such conditions the labor commissioner would be helped in and hampered by the employers of labor and their preferences that the full usefulness of the state labor department could not be exerted, and its present existence and extensive services to the workers and the state would be very materially diminished.
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> "The Minnesota department of labor at this time has the conscientious and determined work of thirty-five persons. It is steadily gaining recognition as one of the most important branches of the state government. The labor interests of the state are comprehensive enough to stand alone and be provided for by themselves, unhampered by consideration of any other kind, especially those of a commercial character.
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> "Organized labor is essentially a humanitarian institution. Its primary object is to improve conditions for human beings, especially for those of the great mass of the people who are least able to help themselves; and this is the burden of the present activity. Cast with the most mercenary aspects, are incidental to the humanitarian motive of existence, which is the one in which trade unionism is most deeply interested.
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> "Past experience has clearly proven that where commercial and humanitarian agencies have been combined under one head they have been neglected and cared for and the latter correspondingly neglected or ignored. Deplorable mistakes have been made by almost every other interest."

THE PIKER

They call him a "piker"—perhaps they were right,
He didn't spend much with the gang
On drinks and cigars he was certainly "tight,"
And to tip gave him really a pang.

He never "threw money around like a prince,"
Or played "the good fellow" at all;
At the club he was known as a "lime" and a "quince,"
And the sums that he squandered were small.

But his family had what his purse could afford,
And he slaved for his girls and his boys.
He'd lend to a comrade in need all his hoard,
Without any boasting or noise.

He would help any chap in the Down and Out club,
Though the fact was not blazoned to fame,
But waiters declared him a "cheap skate" and "duh,"
And spendthrifts considered him "tame."

Well, here is the moral, too potent to miss,
And one it is wise to recall,
"A sport is a sport, but a piker like this
Is the bulliest sport of them all."

—Galesburg Labor News.

NEW ANTITRUST BILL IN HOUSE ACCORDS LABOR AND FARMERS' UNIONS THE RIGHT TO EXIST

AS THE result of the effort of the organized labor movement and long years of agitation, the Bartlett-Bacon bills were introduced in the Sixty-second Congress and reintroduced in the Sixty-third Congress. These bills were indorsed by the American Federation of Labor at several conventions.

On April 14, Hon. Henry D. Clayton, of Alabama, chairman of the Judiciary committee of the House of Representatives, introduced a bill "to supplement existing laws against unlawful restraints and monopolies, and for other purposes." Among the features of interest to Labor are those aimed to relieve labor, fraternal, and other voluntary associations from the provisions of the Sherman Antitrust law, to limit the issuance of injunctions, and to regulate contempt proceedings. The full text of the bill is herewith given. The labor provisions are printed in bold faced type.

A BILL

To supplement existing laws against unlawful restraints and monopolies, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That "antitrust laws," as used herein, includes the Act entitled "An Act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies," approved July second, eighteen hundred and ninety; section seventy-three to seventy-seven, inclusive, of an Act entitled "An Act to reduce taxation, to provide revenue for the Government, and for other purposes," of August twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-four; an Act entitled "An Act to amend sections seventy-three and seventy-six of the Act of August twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-four, entitled "An Act to reduce taxation to provide revenue for the Government, and for other purposes," " approved February twelfth, nineteen hundred and and thirteen; and also this Act.

"Commerce," as used herein, means trade or commerce among the several States, and with foreign nations, or between the District of Columbia or any Territory of the United States and any State, Territory, or foreign nation, or within the District of Columbia or any territory of the United States.

Sec. 2. That any person engaged in commerce who shall discriminate in price between different purchasers of commodities in the same or different sections or communities, with the purpose or intent to thereby injure or destroy the business of a competitor, either of such purchaser or the seller, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court. Corporations shall be deemed persons within the meaning of this section, and when any corporation shall be guilty of a violation of this section, the offense shall be deemed to be also that of the individual directors or other officers or employes of such corporation ordering or doing the prohibited act, and upon conviction they shall be punished as provided in this section: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent discrimination in price between purchasers of commodities on account of differences in the grade, quality, or quantity of the commodity sold, or that makes only due allowance for difference in the cost of transportation; *And provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent persons engaged in selling goods, wares, or merchandise in commerce from selecting their own customers. It shall be unlawful for the owner or operator of any mine engaged in selling its product in commerce to refuse arbitrarily to sell the same to a responsible person, firm, or corporation who applies to purchase.

Sec. 3. That any person engaged in commerce, who shall lease or make a sale of goods, wares, merchandise, machinery, supplies, or other commodities, or fix a price charged therefor, or discount from, or rebate upon such price, on the condition or understanding that the lessee or purchaser thereof shall not use or deal in the goods, wares, merchandise, machinery, supplies, or other commodities, of a competitor or competitors of the lessor or seller, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or by imprisonment not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court. Corporations shall be deemed persons within the meaning of this section, and when any corporation shall be guilty of a violation of this section, the offense shall be deemed to be also that of the individual directors or other officers or employes of such corporation ordering or doing the prohibited acts, and upon conviction they shall be punished as provided in this section.

Sec. 4. That any person, copartnership, association, or corporation, which shall be injured in his or its business or partnership by any person, copartnership, association, or corporation, by reason of anything forbidden by section two or section three of this Act, may sue therefor in any district court of the United States in the district in which the defendant resides or is found, without respect to the amount in controversy, and shall recover threefold the damages by him or it sustained, and the cost of suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee.

Sec. 5. That whenever in any suit or proceeding in equity, brought by or on behalf of the United States under any of the anti-trust laws, there shall have been rendered a final judgment or decree to the effect that a defendant has or has not entered into a contract, combination in the form of trust or otherwise, or conspiracy, in restrain of trade or commerce, or has or has not monopolized, or attempted to monopolize, or combined with any person or persons to monopolize, any part of commerce, in violation of any of the antitrust laws, said judgment or decree shall to the full extent to which such judgment or decree would constitute in any other proceeding an estoppel as between the Government and such defendant, constitute in favor of or against such defendant, conclusive evidence of the same facts, and be conclusive as to the same issues of law in favor of or against any other party in any action or proceeding brought under or involving the provisions of any of the antitrust laws. Whenever any suit or proceeding in equity is brought by or on behalf of the United States, under any of the antitrust laws, the statute of limitations in respect of each and every private right of action, arising under such antitrust laws, and based, in whole or in part, on any matter complained of in said suit, or proceeding in equity, shall be suspended during the pendency of such suit or proceeding in equity.

Sec. 6. That nothing contained in the antitrust laws shall be construed to forbid the existence and operation of fraternal, labor, consumers, agricultural or horticultural organizations, orders or associations operating under the lodge system, instituted for the purposes of mutual help, and not having capital stock or conducted for profit, or to forbid or restrain individual members of such orders or associations from carrying out the legitimate objects of such associations.

Sec. 7. That no corporation engaged in commerce shall acquire, directly or indirectly, the whole, or any part, of the stock or other share capital of another corporation engaged also in commerce, where the effect of such acquisition is to eliminate or lessen competition between the corporation whose stock is so acquired and the corporation making the acquisition, or to create a monopoly of any line of trade in any section or community.

No corporation shall acquire, directly or indirectly, the whole or any part of the stock or other share capital of two or more corporations engaged in commerce where the effect of such acquisition, or the use of such stock by the voting or granting of proxies or otherwise, is to eliminate or lessen competition between such corporations, or any of them, whose stock or other share capital is so acquired, or to create a monopoly of any line of trade in any section or community.

This section shall not apply to corporations purchasing such stock solely for investment, and not using the same by voting or otherwise to bring about, or in attempting to bring about, the lessening of competition. Nor shall anything contained in this section prevent a corporation engaged in commerce from causing the formation of subsidiary corporations for the actual carrying on of their immediate lawful business, or the natural and legitimate branches thereof, or from owning and holding all, or a part of, the stock of such subsidiary corporations, when the effect of such formation is not to eliminate or lessen competition.

Nothing contained in this section shall be held to affect or impair any right heretofore legally acquired: *Provided*, That nothing in this paragraph shall make legal stockholding relations between corporations when, and under such circumstances that, such relations constitute violations of the antitrust laws.

Nor shall anything herein contained be construed to prohibit any railroad corporation from aiding in the construction of branch or short line railroads so located as to become feeders to the main line of the company so aiding in such construction or from acquiring or owning all or any part of the stock of such branch line, nor to prevent any railroad corporation from acquiring and owning all or any part of the stock of a branch or short line railroad constructed by an independent company where there is no substantial competition between the company owning the branch line so constructed and the company owning the main line acquiring the property or an interest therein, nor to prevent any railroad company from extending any of its lines.

A violation of this section shall be deemed a misdemeanor, and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or by imprisonment, not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court, and any violation by a corporation shall be deemed to be also the offense of its individual officers or directors, ordering, doing, or participating in, the prohibited act, and upon conviction, they shall be punished as herein provided.

Sec. 8. That from and after two years from the date of the approval of this Act, no person who is engaged as an individual, or who is a member of a partnership, or is a director or other officer of a corporation that is engaged in the business, in whole or in part, of producing or selling equipment, materials, or supplies to, or in the construction or maintenance of, railroads, or other common carriers engaged in commerce, shall act as a director or other officer or employe of any common carrier engaged in commerce, to which he, or such partnership or corporation, sells or leases, directly or indirectly, equipment, materials, or supplies, or for which he or such partnership or corporation, directly or indirectly, engages in the work of construction or maintenance; and, after the expiration of said period, no person who is engaged as an individual, or who is a member of a partnership, or is a director or other officer of a corporation which is engaged in the conduct of a bank or trust company, shall act as a director, or other officer or employe, of any such common carrier, for which he, or such partnership, or bank, or trust company, acts, either separately or in connection with others, as agent in the disposal of, or is interested in the underwriting of, or from which he or such partnership, or bank, or trust company, purchases, either separately, or in connection with others, issues or parts of issues of securities of such common carrier.

That from and after two years from the date of the approval of this Act no person shall at the same time be a director or other officer or employe of more than one bank, banking association, or trust company organized and operated under the laws of the United States, either of which has deposits, capital, surplus, and undivided profits aggregating more than $2,500,000; and no private banker, or person who is a director in any bank or trust company, organized and operating under the laws of a State, having deposits, capital, surplus, and undivided profits aggregating more than $2,500,000, shall be eligible to be a director in any bank or banking association organized and operating under the laws of the United States.

No bank, banking association, or trust company organized and doing business under the laws of the United States in any city or town of more than one hundred thousand inhabitants shall have as a director or other officer or employe any private banker or any director or other officer or employe of any other bank, banking association, or trust company located in the same place.

That from and after two years from the date of the approval of this Act no person at the same time shall be a director in any two or more corporations engaged in whole or in part in commerce, other than common carriers, subject to the Act to regulate commerce, approved February fourth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, if such corporations are, or shall have been theretofore, by virtue of their business and location of operation, competitors, so that an elimination of competition by agreement between them would constitute a violation of any of the provisions of any of the antitrust laws.

That any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be punished by a fine of $100 a day for each day of the continuance of such violation, or by imprisonment for such period as the court may designate, not exceeding one year, or by both, in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 9. That any suit, action, or proceeding under the antitrust laws, against a corporation, may be brought not only in the judicial district whereof it is an inhabitant, but also in any district wherein it may be found.

Sec. 10. That subpoenas for witnesses who are required to attend a court of the United States in any judicial district in any case, civil or criminal, arising under the Federal antitrust laws, may run into any other district.

Sec. 11. That whenever a corporation shall be guilty of the violation of any of the provisions of the antitrust laws, the offense shall be deemed to be also that of the individual directors, officers, and agents of such corporation authorizing, ordering, or doing any of such prohibited acts, and upon conviction thereof they shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and punished by a fine not exceeding $5,000, or imprisonment not exceeding one year, or by both said punishments in the discretion of the court.

Sec. 12. That the several district courts of the United States are hereby invested with jurisdiction to prevent and restrain violations of this Act; and it shall be the duty of the several district attorneys of the United States, in their respective districts, under the direction of the Attorney General, to institute proceedings in equity to prevent and restrain such violations. Such proceedings may be by way of petition, setting forth the case and praying that such violation shall be enjoined or otherwise prohibited. When the parties complained of shall have been duly notified of such petition, the court shall proceed, as soon as may be, to the hearing and determination of the case; and pending such petition, and before final decree, the court may at any time make such temporary restraining order or prohibition as shall be deemed just in the premises. Whenever it shall appear to the court before which any such proceeding may be pending that the ends of justice require that other parties should be brought before the court, the court may cause them to be summoned, whether they reside in the district in which the court is held or not, and subpoenas to that end may be served in any district by the marshall thereof.

Sec. 13. That any person, firm, corporation, or association shall be entitled to sue for and have injunctive relief, in any court of the United States having jurisdiction over the parties, against threatened loss or damage by a violation of the antitrust laws, when and under the same conditions and principles as injunctive relief against threatened conduct that will cause loss or damage is granted by courts of equity, under the rules governing such proceedings, and upon the execution of proper bond against damages for an injunction improvidently granted and a showing that the danger of irreparable loss or damage is immediate, a preliminary injunction may issue: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to entitle any person, firm, corporation, or association, except the United States, to bring suit in equity for injunctive relief against any common carrier, subject to the provisions of the Act to regulate commerce, approved February fourth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, in respect of any matter subject to the regulation, supervision, or other jurisdiction of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Sec. 14. That no injunction, whether interlocutory or permanent, in cases other than those described in section two hundred and sixty-six of an Act entitled "An Act to codify, revise, and amend the laws relating to the judiciary," approved March third, nineteen hundred and eleven, shall be issued without previous notice and an opportunity to be heard on behalf of the parties to be enjoined, which notice, together with a copy of the bill of complaint or other pleading upon which the application for such injunction will be based, shall be served upon the parties sought to be enjoined a reasonable time in advance of such application. But if it shall appear to the satisfaction of the court or judge that immediate and irreparable injury is likely to ensue to property or a property right of the complainant, and that the giving of notice of the application or the delay incident thereto would probably permit the doing of the act sought to be restrained before notice could be served or hearing had thereon, the court or judge may, in his discretion, issue a temporary restraining order without notice. Every such order shall be endorsed with the date and hour of issuance, shall be forthwith entered of record, shall define the injury and state why it is irreparable and why the order was granted without notice, and shall by its terms expire within such time after entry, not to exceed ten days, as the court or judge may fix, unless within the time so fixed the order is extended or renewed for a like period, after notice to those previously served, if any, and for good cause shown, and the reasons for such extension shall be entered of record, and section two hundred and sixty-three of the Act entitled "An Act to codify, revise, and amend the laws relating to the judiciary," approved March third, nineteen hundred and eleven, is hereby repealed.

Sec. 15. That no restraining order or interlocutory order of injunction shall issue, except upon the giving of security by the applicant in such sum as the court or judge may deem proper, conditioned upon the payment of such costs and damages as may be incurred or suffered by any party who may be found to have been wrongfully enjoined or restrained thereby.

Sec. 16. That every order of injunction or restraining order shall set forth the reasons for the issuance of the same, shall be specific in terms, and shall describe in reasonable detail, and not by reference to the bill of complaint or other document, the act or acts sought to be restrained; and shall be binding only upon the parties to the suit, their agents, servants, employes, and attorneys, or those in active concert with them, and who shall, by personal service or otherwise, have received actual notice of the same.

Sec. 17. That no restraining order or injunction shall be granted by any court of the United States, or a judge or the judges thereof, in any case between an employer and employes, or between employers and employes, or between employes, or between persons employed and persons seeking employment, involving, or growing out of, a dispute concerning terms or conditions of employment, unless necessary to prevent irreparable injury to property, or to a property right, of the party making the application, for which injury there is no adequate remedy at law, and such property or property right must be described with particularity in the application, which must be in writing and sworn to by the applicant or by his agent or attorney.

And no such restraining order or injunction shall prohibit any person or persons from terminating any relation of employment, or from ceasing to perform any work or labor, or from recommending, advising, or persuading others by peaceful means so to do; or from attending at or near a house or place where any person resides or works, or carries on business, or happens to be for the purpose of peacefully obtaining or communicating information, or of peacefully persuading any person to work or to abstain from working; or from ceasing to patronize or to employ any party to such dispute; or from recommending, advising, or persuading others by peaceful means so to do; or from paying or giving to, or withholding from, any person engaged in such dispute, any strike benefits or other moneys or things of value; or from peaceably assembling at any place in a lawful manner, and for lawful purposes; or from doing any act or thing which might lawfully be done in the absence of such dispute by any party thereto.

Sec. 18. That any person who shall willfully disobey any lawful writ, process, order, rule, decree, or command of any district court of the United States by doing any act or thing therein, or thereby forbidden to be done by him, if the act or thing so done by him be of such character as to constitute also a criminal offense under any statute of the United States, or at common law, shall be proceeded against for his said contempt as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 19. That whenever it shall be made to appear to any district court or judge thereof, or to any judge therein sitting, by the return of a proper officer of lawful process, or upon the affidavit of some credible person, or by information filed by any district attorney, that there is reasonable ground to believe that any person has been guilty of such contempt, the court or judge thereof, or any judge therein sitting, may issue a rule requiring the said person so charged to show cause upon a day certain why he should not be punished therefor, which rule, together with a copy of the affidavit or information, shall be served upon the person charged with sufficient promptness to enable him to prepare for and make return to the order at the time fixed therein. If upon or by such return, in the judgment of the court, the alleged contempt be not sufficiently purged, a trial shall be directed at a time and place fixed by the court: Provided, however, That if the accused, being a natural person, fail or refuse to make return to the rule to show cause, an attachment may issue against his person to compel an answer, and in case of his continued failure or refusal, or if, for any reason, it be impracticable to dispose of the matter on the return day, he may be required to give reasonable bail for his attendance at the trial and his submission to the final judgment of the court. Where the accused person is a body corporate, an attachment for the sequestration of its property may be issued upon like refusal or failure to answer.

In all cases within the purview of this Act such trial may be by the court, or, upon demand of the accused, by a jury; in which latter event the court may impanel a jury from the jurors then in attendance, or the court or the judge thereof in chambers may cause a sufficient number of jurors to be selected and summoned, as provided by law, to attend at the time and place of trial, at which time a jury shall be selected and impaneled as upon a trial for misdemeanor; and such trial shall conform, as near as may be, to the practice in criminal cases prosecuted by indictment or upon information.

If the accused be found guilty, judgment shall be entered accordingly, prescribing the punishment, either by fine or imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of the court. Such fine shall be paid to the United States or to the complainant or other party injured by the act constituting the contempt, or may, where more than one is so damaged, be divided or apportioned among them as the court may direct; but in no case shall the fine to be paid to the United States exceed, in case the accused is a natural person, the sum of $1,000, nor shall such imprisonment exceed the term of six months.

Sec. 20. That the evidence taken upon the trial of any person so accused may be preserved by bill of exceptions, and any judgment of conviction may be reviewed upon writ of error in all respects as now provided by law in criminal cases, and may be affirmed, reversed, or modified as justice may require. Upon the granting of such writ of error, execution of judgment shall be stayed, and the accused, if thereby sentenced to imprisonment, shall be admitted to bail in such reasonable sum as may be required by the court, or by any justice, or any judge, of any district court of the United States.

Sec. 21. That nothing herein contained shall be construed to relate to contempts committed in the presence of the court, or so near thereto as to obstruct the administration of justice, nor to contempts committed in disobedience of any lawful writ, process, order, rule, decree, or command entered in any suit or action brought or prosecuted in the name of, or on behalf of, the United States, but the same, and all other cases of contempt not specifically embraced within section eighteen of this Act, may be punished in conformity to the usages at law and in equity now prevailing.

Sec. 22. That no proceeding for contempt shall be instituted against any person unless begun within one year from the date of the act complained of; nor shall any such proceeding be a bar to any criminal prosecution for the same act or acts; but nothing herein contained shall affect any proceedings in contempt pending at the time of the passage of this Act.

HAPPY OVER END OF LONG STRUGGLE

In a full page editorial, The San Francisco Labor Clarion, official journal of the central body of that city, expresses gratification over the final unity among electrical workers along the Pacific Coast, and the end of dualism in that section. The Labor Clarion says:

"Last Friday night the delegates from Electrical Workers' Unions Nos. 151 and 537 were seated in the Labor Council, as they had reaffiliated with their international.

"Reports from all sections of the Pacific Coast, Canada to Mexico are to the effect that all Reid locals are pursuing a similar course. The same is true of the intermountain country, so that the long and bitter controversy in the electrical industry west of the Rocky Mountains is at an end, and harmony and good feeling is the order among the men of this great industry.

"While the new president of the Reid-Murphy faction, James Fitzgerald, has a representative on the coast endeavoring to induce men to refuse to abide by the decision reached at a referendum election of the Pacific district council, he is meeting with no success whatever. From the headquarters of the Reid-Murphy faction there is also being sent literature to the labor papers of this section which is anything but a credit to the organization contributing it. No method that will tend to create discord among the men of the trade being overlooked by the Reid officers, but happily for the labor movement, these appeals to prejudice are falling on deaf ears, and the men are almost a unit in their decision to forget past differences and finish the job at hand.

"Resolve that electrical workers, like other trade unionists, will fight their battles among themselves in the subject to which will enable them to face the common enemy with a solid front, and that no effort shall accrue to employers because of disagreement among the workers.

"Bitter as has been the struggle during the past seven years between the contending factions, the men of the West are a forgiving people. They are big enough and broad enough and sensible enough to lift themselves above their fancied grievances in the interests of the who toil, electrical workers and others, for the trouble penetrated deep into the ranks of the movement and resulted in friction and contention all along the line.

"The members of the Pacific District Council are to be commended for their staunch trade unionism, for it was this and nothing else that prompted them to take the step in spite of the fact that disgruntled and selfish officers, outside of the district, strived to create discord, turmoil and strife within the craft. It was an unselfish and unpleasant line of duty, but the men placed the cause before their personal feelings and brought to the movement east of this section of the country the assurance that peace and progress and prosperity in the future shall not be hindered in the ranks of labor by any selfishness on their part.

"It is sincerely to be hoped the electrical men of the Reid-Murphy faction throughout the continent will see the error of their way and follow the lead of the Pacific District Council by accepting the agreement reached in this city last December, the conditions of which were President Gompers and representatives of the two factions of electrical workers. It was believed at the time the agreement was reached that it meant the end of the fighting in the ranks of the electrical workers, but President Fitzgerald refused to even submit the proposition to the membership for decision, and immediately proceeded to build wild reports on the agreement in an endeavor to convince the membership that the unions they should continue to maintain two unions in the industry claiming jurisdiction over the same work. The Pacific District Council refused to be coerced into refusing to submit the question to the rank and file for decision and proceeded to hold an election. When the ballots were counted it was found that the membership, by a vote of more than three to one, favored abiding by the terms of the agreement and uniting the forces of the two factions. The membership having thus decided the question, the officers notified them to proceed to carry out the terms of the agreement, which was done without incident or friction in spite of the efforts of Fitzgerald and his lieutenants sent here for the purpose of creating trouble.

"Because of the refusal of the international officers to give the men in other districts of the country an opportunity to vote upon the question it is not definitely known how they feel about the proposition, but it is believed that in accord with the action taken in this section of the country and will shortly force the stubborn and selfish few to put the question to the rank and file for decision. If the matter reaches the general membership in this way, as it ought to know, the agreement will surely be approved and one union will again be established in the electrical field on the continent.

"Whether this much to be desired result is to be achieved or not the fact remains that the trip to this city last fall by representatives of the American Federation of Labor was not in vain, and the results even now are sufficient to repay them for the time and money expended in the work. Particularly should the outcome be gratifying to President Gompers and Vice President Duncan, two men who exercised a Job-like patience and severely taxed their energies at times throughout the long day and night for nearly two weeks. Of course, a number of local men, too, rendered valuable assistance, but Messrs. M. and two factions together, and to them is due no small measure of credit for the present unity.

"The Pacific District Council officers are to be congratulated for the position they assumed in the premises because it stamps them as trade unionists who dare to follow what they believe to be right, and the membership who elected them to office and the vote on the proposition to reaffiliate is another evidence of the sound sense of the rank and file of their position in submitting the matter to the referendum in spite of the efforts of the disgruntled officials in the East.

"As a result of the action of the electrical workers in the entire labor movement of the Pacific Coast is now in a better position to proceed successfully with the organization work, retarded by the unfortunate controversy."

LABOR TEMPLE BENEFIT TO ORGANIZATIONS

J. H. Walker, president, and J. F. Morris, secretary of the Illinois State Federation of Labor, in a communication addressed to the labor organizations of that state, have the following encouraging words concerning the Labor Temple project. Any one who visits the home of organized labor in Sioux City must admit that a Labor Temple is one of the things most needed here, and the plan to finance the building of such a structure proposed by the Sioux City Trades and Labor Assembly some time ago should not be abandoned because of lack of interest, or for other reasons. If there is not sufficient interest among the labor bodies of Sioux City to warrant them in undertaking, the thing to do is to create interest. Perhaps what the Illinois federation officials have to say on the subject will contain a germ of encouragement. It reads:

"With reference to the efforts being made by the trades unions and their sympathizers in the different places to build Labor Temples, we desire to say that we hope their efforts will be continued and intensified until such ambitions in this matter will have been realized in every village, town, or city in our state.

"There is nothing they can do that will tend to bring the workers together, strengthen the local labor movement in all its different phases, make them proud of it, give them confidence in each other more than would the building of a substantial, commodious Labor Temple, which can be housed as in the one at Quincy and Staunton, Ill., their co-operative store, their co-operative restaurant, their co-operative reading-room, their co-operative gymnasium, their co-operative bowling alleys, meeting rooms for the local unions and the central body, and a large, well fitted auditorium which could also be used for theater purposes, lectures, courses, mass meetings, and for social occasions such as dances, etc.

"It also removes the meeting places from any evil influences that might surround them where they could be surrounded by every good influence from the viewpoint of the workers and trade unionists, besides instilling into the minds of the local workers the pride of ownership. Labor Temples are something themselves, also giving them a feeling of security, a knowledge that they are safe, that they can always meet there and no one can interfere with them or drive them out. By all means let the work start where the halls have been built."—Sioux City Advocate.

GIVE THEM A PLACE TO PLAY

Dennis McCarthy in The Survey.

Plenty of room for dives and dens (glitter and glare of sin),
Plenty of room for prison pens (gather the criminals in);
Plenty of room for jails and courts (willing enough to pay),
But never a place for the lads to race—no, never a place to play!

Plenty of room for shops and stores (Mammon must have the best);
Plenty of room for the running sores that rot in the city's breast!
Plenty of room for that fatal drink that dooms to the gutter and sin;
But never a cent on playground spent—no, never a place to play.

Plenty of room for schools and halls, plenty of room for art;
Plenty of room for teas and balls, platform, stage, and mart.
Proud is the city—she finds a place for many a fad today;
But she's more than blind if she fails to find a place for the boys to play.

Give them a chance for innocent sport, give them a chance for fun—
Better a playground plot than a court and a jail when the harm is done!
Give them a chance—if you stint them now you'll have to pay
A larger bill for darker ill. So give them a place to play!

LESS NIGHT WORK FOR P. O. CLERKS

If the Palmer bill is made law by Congress it will bring a reduction in the hours of those employes in the postal service who must labor between 6 p. m. and 6 a. m. by computing such labor on the basis of forty-five minutes to the hour.

The bill was introduced by Representative Palmer, of Pennsylvania, at the request of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks, legislation of this character has long been advocated by the postal employes, but this is the first definite step toward its enactment. At present night workers in the postal service, under the terms of other laws passed by congress, receive no wage differential or any recognition whatever that is not accorded day workers.

According to Secretary Thomas F. Flaherty, of the National Federation of Postoffice Clerks, affiliated with the A. F. of L., who is enlisting support in Washington, the passage of the Palmer bill as Palmer measure is one of the most important ever introduced affecting the postoffice clerks, because it would mean the conservation of the health and the strength of the clerks," he said, "and there can be nothing more important than that. It is the opinion of the men in the service that night work shortens life at least ten years. Any reduction in night work, therefore, means the lengthening of the life of the workers.

"Inasmuch as the bulk of the distribution of mail is done after 6 p. m. in all the postoffices, the Palmer bill, which is designed to bring relief to the distributors—the men whose trained eyes and skilled hands must handle letters and parcels at lightning speed through the dark hours of the night. To them alone the eight-hour day is a misnomer because they must study distribution schemes after eight hours and give up their own time. A six-hour tour of duty for those who work at night, as the Palmer bill is merely recognition of the just principle that scheme study is office work and should be performed as such.

"It is Mr. Flaherty's opinion that much of the present night work could be eliminated if the bulk were delivered and unimportant mail matter were better regulated. "The large mail order house dump tons of mail into the offices at all hours of the night. Men are kept at work sorting the mail to get it ready to it out of the way before the following day's rush of first class matter. If these bulk mailings could be confined to the day time, it would mean better working hours for the men and greater efficiency to thousands of clerks.

"The efficiency of a mail distributor is impaired after the sixth hour on duty. Daytime sleep in a great city, where most of these men live, is difficult and does not bring the recuperation needed to sustain strength and vitality. The Palmer bill, which would operate to eliminate unnecessary night work and reduce the hours of those performing the necessary work, is an economic necessity. From a humane standpoint its enactment is also to be urged. It will make for an improved service and a more healthful body of postal employes."

WELFARE WORK

The efforts of employers of labor to install welfare work in their plants and shops are worthy of a better cause. Real welfare work consists of the workers' chance to build himself a home, to have wife and children, to have leisure to make home life worth while, to have money enough to educate his children and keep himself in self-respect with those of his neighbors. Welfare work should not consist in efforts to prevent increases of wages, shortening of hours, or limiting unions, in trying to induce men to believe that the employer is a philanthropist.

Employers of labor have been busy working out schemes to control men who were on the payroll, men who wanted to feel that they were free American citizens. These employers have tried to produce some substitute for the free of union "dominance" while they felt the yoke of "philanthropy" under the name of welfare work. The condition in some plants is almost intolerable and men break away at times in order to get the benefit of their crafts for the purpose of enforcing their rights as citizens and as producers.

Welfare work was conceived by men who wanted to stultify their workers and hold themselves up as the source of all things for the men who toil. As a matter of fact, the scheme injures men, for it gives them a sense of false pride and has a tendency to make them feel indebted to the boss when the money he has to account is balanced at the end of five years it is discovered that the workers have paid many times over the cost of the privileges and benefits enjoyed under the scheme of welfare work. It is always free, and will continue to be true until the character of man shall be radically changed.

In Portland a big department store has recently organized a welfare scheme, and the New York system of welfare workers store failed and left its welfare work in a deplorable condition. These are instances of the hundreds of efforts to control a plan which was conceived for the purpose of throwing sand in the eyes of the toiler to prevent him from securing his best interest and acting with his fellows to do himself the most good.

Watch welfare work in Portland. It may need watching. People who will not allow their workers to organize—when they demand that it is a disadvantage for capital—are not playing a just game, and they know it. Why not pay wages and allow men and women to do their own welfare work in a practical, sensible way?—Portland (Oreg.) Press.

WORKERS' CHANCES

With the railroad industry as his center of inquiry, Prof. Scott Nearing has been looking over the proposition that there is always a possibility of the workingman becoming a capitalist or a manager.

In 1910, he finds, 5,476 officers directed the activities of the million and three quarters employes. Thus each employe should have a chance to be promoted to an officer at some time during his life, provided that employes live as long as do officers and that there is no loss or gain from the ranks. But he assures us, according to insurance tables, that the general officers live longer than do the workingman and that the officer is not always drawn from the ranks.

Mathematically a railroad trainman has one chance in 200 of becoming an officer, but he has one chance in 10 of being injured and one chance in 125 of being killed during each year that he is at work. If his age averages 30 years then the chances are one to one that during that time he will be injured; one to six that he will be killed, so that the chance of being injured is 300 times as great and of being killed is fifty times as great as a chance of becoming a general manager in the company.

From this and other illustrations Prof. Nearing deduces that the tendency of modern industry is toward a form of organization that will require the wage-worker to remain a wage-worker.

Modern industry also makes it possible for the average wage-worker to have thirty to determine what his wages for the rest of his working life will be. The maximum of this is what he can produce when he produces, custom, cost of replacement, trade unions. There is no limit to the combinations, however, for which he is subject to reduction by overwork, sickness, and accidents, labor-saving inventions, shutdowns of industrial plants, and industrial crises.—Portland Labor Press.

MILITIA OR STANDING ARMY

From something which the News, of this city, said last week it was assumed that we were opposed to soldering. We are opposed to anything which usually accompanies any military movement, but not to any genuine activity in the interests of defense. We do not like a standing army because of the evil effects of idle of idleness upon the men. The man who has no object or aim in life but to prepare to kill time is a dangerous citizen to generate. The only alternative is to have a militia that shall be well trained and able to understand the work which would otherwise devolve upon a standing army. We are bound to be ready for war, but we have men devote their whole lives to the deplorable business is anything but desirable. It might be well to have every man receive a limited amount of training, but not to take him away from his regular employment. Doubtless the time will come when we shall not need soldiers, but for the present we must be content and make as little use of them as possible. The opposition to the militia comes from the labor unions, because the citizen militia is often called upon to help enforce the law against too-enthusiastic strikers. That is a abuse of the power, and is no argument against it. The establishment of an active militia force is the best means of preventing the use of soldiers. They are there, very many of them, because regular employment is there as normal is in the factories; the garment workers, cigarmakers, textile workers, and most of the occupations.

The very nature of their regular work tends to unfit them for the hard labor that would have been often offered and refused. By the way, we who know how many laborers, accustomed to that line of work, are ready to accept such jobs are unable to find employment, realize that the opposition of work refused is grossly exaggerated.

To return to the factory workers, the very qualifications that are developed in these men fit for their regular work unfits them for such labor as is asserted has been done. They are so often the accompaniment of these, naturally